

Supportive testimony for March 4, 2022 GAE Public Hearing
Senate Bill 184 and House Bill 5262

Sarah Ganong, Connecticut Working Families Organization State Director

My name is Sarah Ganong, and I'm a voter in Hartford. I am also the state director of Connecticut Working Families, an advocacy organization fighting for an economy and a democracy that work for everyone, not just the wealthy and well-connected. I come before you today in strong support of Senate Bill 184 and House Bill 5262, continuing absentee voting in 2022 due to COVID.

At Working Families, we believe that voters should continue to be able to vote this year by absentee ballot as COVID-19 persists. In the last two election cycles, our organization spoke to thousands of voters by phone call and text message – many were relieved when they found out that they could continue to use COVID-19 as a valid reason to request an absentee ballot even last year. My own parents, who are in their 60s, were alarmed when I informed them that as the law stands now, they would be required to vote in person regardless of the state of the pandemic in August or November.

With over 650,000 voters using this system in the 2020 general election, many could face disenfranchisement if this system reverts. Please protect the free to vote in Connecticut and pass SB 184 and HB 5262.

Thanks!
Sarah